



**Biographies of Conference Speakers and Presenters**  
***Presented in Alphabetical Order***

**Maximilian Auffhammer, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UC Berkeley**

Professor Auffhammer's research at UC Berkeley focuses on environmental and resource economics, energy economics, and applied econometrics. He is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a Humboldt Foundation Fellow, and an author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Professor Auffhammer serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* and has been published in numerous academic journals including *The American Economic Review*, the *Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences*, and *The Energy Journal*.

**Major General David S. Baldwin, Commander, California National Guard**

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. recalled General Baldwin from his second deployment to Afghanistan to assume command of the California National Guard. As the adjutant general, he leads the largest, most tasked National Guard force in the United States, with an authorized strength of 23,000 personnel. General Baldwin's full-time assignments include acting as emergency plans and operations officer. He is responsible for the operation of the State Military Department, which consists of the California Army and Air National Guard, State Military Reserve, and California Youth Programs.

**Felicity Barringer, Environmental Reporter, New York Times**

Ms. Barringer has been a national environmental correspondent at *The New York Times* since 2003. She joined the paper as a contributing correspondent in Moscow in 1986, reporting on the political and cultural upheavals of the Gorbachev era. She covered demographics and social policy in the Washington bureau from 1993 to 1995, and was deputy editor of *The Week in Review*. She has also written for *Columbia Journalism Review*, *Art News*, *The New York Times Book Review*, and *The New York Times Magazine*. Ms. Barringer received a bachelor's degree in English from Stanford University, where she served as editor-in-chief of *The Stanford Daily*.

**Sir Richard Branson, Founder, Virgin Group**

With approximately 200 companies in over 30 countries, Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Group covers leisure, travel, tourism, mobile, broadband, TV, radio, music festivals, finance, and health. Through the Virgin Green Group, his companies invest in renewable energy and resource efficiency. In February 2007, Mr. Branson announced the Virgin Green Earth Fund - a \$25 million prize to encourage a viable technology which will result in the net removal of human generated atmospheric greenhouse gases. He has also been instrumental in efforts to develop low carbon fuels for the aviation industry. In 2007, he joined Peter Gabriel, Nelson Mandela, Graça Machel, and Desmond Tutu to announce the formation of

*The Elders*, a group of leaders to contribute their wisdom, independent leadership, and integrity to tackle some of the world's toughest problems.

**Governor Edmund G. Brown, Governor of California**

Edmund G. Brown, Jr., or “Jerry”, was born in San Francisco on April 7, 1938. He graduated from St. Ignatius High School in 1955 and entered Sacred Heart Novitiate, a Jesuit seminary. In 1960, he attended the University of California, Berkeley, before graduating from Yale Law School in 1964. Brown was elected Trustee for the Los Angeles Community Colleges in 1969, Secretary of State in 1970, and Governor in 1974 and 1978. As Governor, he created millions of jobs, strengthened environmental protections, and promoted renewable energy. In 1992, Brown sought the Democratic Presidential nomination, defeating Bill Clinton in six states and continuing until the National Convention. In 1998, Brown was elected Mayor of Oakland, revitalizing its downtown, reducing crime, and founding two high-performing charter schools. In 2006, Brown was elected California Attorney General, and in 2010, the people once again elected Brown as Governor of California.

**Heidi Cullen, Ph.D., Climate Central, Former Correspondent, The Weather Channel**

Dr. Cullen is vice president for external communications and chief climatologist and research scientist for Climate Central, where she reports on climate and energy issues. Before joining Climate Central, Dr. Cullen served as The Weather Channel’s first on-air climate expert and helped create *Forecast Earth*, a television series on climate change and the environment. She has worked as a research scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), is the author of *The Weather of the Future*, and is a visiting lecturer at Princeton University.

**Martha Davis, Executive Manager, Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA)**

Ms. Davis has led many of the agency’s award-winning conservation, planning and green programs including initiatives promoting water conservation, renewable energy, storm water capture, and recycled water. IEUA provides regional sewage treatment services, distributes imported and recycled water supplies, and provides other utility services for nearly a million people in the San Bernardino region. Ms. Davis also staffs the Delta Stewardship Council and serves as the council’s senior policy advisor. She serves on the boards of the Association of California Water Agency (chair, Energy Committee and Climate Change Subcommittee) and the California Section of the Water Reuse Association.

**Diana Dooley, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency**

Secretary Dooley oversees the agency’s 12 health and human services departments including Public Health and Social Services, and manages a team of experts that advise the department on matters of budget, policy, legal and external affairs. Secretary Dooley is member of the newly created California Health Benefit Exchange Board and will oversee state efforts to implement federal health care reform, revamp a health information technology system and expand health care coverage to millions of Californians. She also serves on the California Strategic Growth Council.

**Greg Farrington, Ph.D., Executive Director, California Academy of Sciences**

As leader of the Academy, Dr. Farrington focuses the Academy’s programs on two questions: “How did life happen?” and “How can we sustain it?” The only institution in the world to combine a museum, aquarium and planetarium, as well as research and education programs, the Academy is uniquely positioned to explore these questions. Dr. Farrington brings a blend of leadership and scientific literacy to his role as executive director. He worked in academia for over 25 years, as president of Lehigh University, and professor, director of the Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter, and dean

of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Farrington is also a widely published chemist, holding more than two dozen patents and has written more than 100 articles in the fields of solid state chemistry, electrochemistry and education.

**Steven Frisch, President and Chief Executive Officer, Sierra Business Council (SBC)**

Mr. Frisch is a former small business owner in the Sierra Nevada, and former hospitality industry executive. As CEO he guides SBC's regional business-based non-governmental organization, which implements innovative approaches to create vital communities, promote environmental quality, and increase the economic prosperity of the Sierra Nevada. SBC has a record of promoting public-private partnerships which have leveraged more than \$140 million in investment in the Sierra Nevada; trained more than 500 community leaders; and protected more than 40,000 acres of working farms, ranches and forests.

**Beth Jines, Director of Sustainability, City of Los Angeles**

Ms. Jines is responsible for implementing climate change action in Los Angeles. Ms. Jines is a founding member and city representative on the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability, which coordinates climate and sustainability planning of 88 cities, utilities, transportation agencies, water suppliers, businesses, and academia into a regional climate and adaptation plan for the larger Los Angeles region of more than 10 million people. She has more than 25 years of environmental policy experience with the city of Los Angeles and the state of California, where she served as chief deputy director of the State Water Resources Control Board and assistant secretary for water at the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Mark Keim, MD, Senior Science Advisor, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Dr. Keim specializes in disaster medicine and has consulted on the management of disasters involving the health of millions of people worldwide. Dr. Keim twice received the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services secretary's Award for Distinguished Service for his work as co-lead of the Center for Disease Control's emergency operations during the World Trade Center and anthrax letter emergencies in 2001 and for Hurricane Katrina in 2006. He is a member of the White House Subcommittee for Disaster Reduction and has served as a review editor for the United Nations intergovernmental panel on climate change since 2009.

**John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)**

Secretary Laird has spent 35 years in public service, including 23 years as an elected official, and now leads the state's Natural Resources Agency, including Cal Fire and the departments of water resources, conservation, fish and game, parks and recreation, and the California Energy Commission. CNRA leads the state's climate adaptation efforts. While serving the maximum three terms in the Assembly, Secretary Laird authored 82 bills that were signed into law. These bills established the landmark Sierra Nevada Conservancy, restored community college health services, expanded and clarified state civil rights protections, reformed the state mandates system, and significantly expanded water conservation.

**Patrick Lavin, Business Manager and Financial Secretary, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local #47**

Mr. Lavin has been a journeyman lineman for over 35 years. He has served five terms as business manager and financial secretary of IBEW Local #47 and is in his fourth term as the IBEW 7<sup>th</sup> District International Executive Council member. He is the treasurer of the Coalition of California Utility Employees (CCUE), a board member of California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE), and an executive board member of the California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW). He is a member of the

Pacific Council on International Policy and was co-chair of the Council's Climate Change Adaptation Task Force in 2009.

**Nancy McFadden,**

**Executive Secretary for Legislation, Appointments, and Policy for Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.**

Throughout her career, McFadden has served as a key legal, political, and policy official at both the federal and state levels, as well as the private sector. Most recently, McFadden was a Senior Vice President for Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation. Prior to her role with PG&E, she was a Senior Advisor to Governor Gray Davis focusing primarily on energy and budget matters. A high-ranking member of the Clinton Administration for eight years, McFadden served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Vice President Al Gore, General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Transportation and Deputy Associate Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice. A Bay Area native, McFadden holds a J.D. from the University of Virginia and a B.A. from San Jose State University.

**Ed Moreno, MD, Director, Fresno County Department of Public Health**

Dr. Moreno leads and administers Fresno County's health programs including Office of Emergency Services, Central California emergency medical services, communicable disease control, as well as public and environmental health policy and planning. He is former president of the California Conference of Local Health Officers, chairs the scientific guidance panel to the California Environmental Contaminant Bio-monitoring Program and serves on several boards and commissions including the American Academy of Pediatrics (California Chapter), the Health Officers Association of California, and the Fresno County First Five Commission.

**Susanne Moser, Ph.D., Susanne Moser Research and Consulting**

Dr. Moser's work centers around adaptation to climate change, resilience, decision support, and effective climate change communication in support of social change. She contributed to both the fourth and fifth IPCC Assessment Reports and was a review editor on IPCC's most recent report, *Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters*. Over the past 15 years, Dr. Moser has focused on the vulnerability, impacts, and adaptive responses to climate change, especially in coastal areas, public health and forest-reliant communities. She was a research scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, and worked for the Heinz Center on coastal erosion and management, and as staff scientist for climate change for the Union of Concerned Scientists.

**Bryan Murphy, Executive Vice-President and Chief Claims Officer, Farmers Insurance Group**

Mr. Murphy is responsible for personal and commercial lines claims operations for Farmers Insurance. Headquartered in Los Angeles and doing business in 41 states, the Farmers group of companies provides home, auto, business, and life insurance, and financial services to more than 10 million households through 17,000 exclusive and independent agents and district managers. Prior to joining Farmers, he served as worldwide head of claims at Zurich Financial Services Group in Zurich, Switzerland, and has served in various capacities for The Hartford Insurance Group, and Chubb and Son, Inc. Farmers Insurance Group is the nation's third-largest home and auto insurer.

**Mary Nichols, Chairman, California Air Resources Board**

Ms. Nichols has held the post of Chairman of the California Air Resources Board since 2007. Prior to this position, she held a range of federal and state leadership positions. Ms. Nichols served as Assistant Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air and Radiation program under President Clinton, Secretary for California's Resources Agency from 1999 to 2003 and Director of the Institute of the Environment at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her priorities as chairman

include moving ahead on the state's landmark climate change program (AB 32), steering the Board through numerous efforts to curb diesel pollution at ports and continuing to pass regulations aimed at providing cleaner air for Southern California and the San Joaquin Valley. She values innovation, partnerships and common-sense approaches to addressing the state's air issues.

**Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**

Dr. Pachauri has been Chairman of the IPCC since 2002. In 2007, he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of IPCC's unparalleled *"efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and lay the foundation for the measures needed to counteract such change."* Dr. Pachauri holds Ph.D.s in both Industrial Engineering and Economics. He is active in numerous international forums dealing with climate change and its policy dimensions, and his wide-ranging expertise has resulted in his being invited to join various international and national panels, committees and professional associations.

**Matt Petersen, President and CEO, Global Green USA**

Mr. Petersen has led Global Green USA since 1994, building and guiding the organization's innovative programs and initiatives. He also is Chair of Green Cross International's Energy Program. Mr. Petersen's vision for the green rebuilding of New Orleans has led to the greening of New Orleans schools, helped educate thousands of residents to rebuild their homes more energy efficiently, and helped create the Holy Cross Project, a sustainable village in the Lower 9th Ward with 23 units of affordable housing and a community/climate action center. In 2008, he was appointed by the Sir Edmund Hillary Institute in New Zealand as the Inaugural Hillary Fellow. Previously, Mr. Petersen ran local, state, and federal political campaigns as well as serving as the Executive Director of Americans for a Safe Future.

**Nancy Pfund, Managing Partner, DBL Investors**

Ms. Pfund sponsors or sits on the board of directors of a number of private companies, including Primus Power, SolarCity, Solaria, Brightsource Energy and Pandora. Ms. Pfund also worked closely with Tesla Motors. Ms. Pfund is a member of the board of directors of the California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF), a not-for-profit fund mandated by the California Public Utilities Commission to invest in companies pursuing fossil-fuel alternatives. She is on the advisory board of the UC Davis Center for Energy Efficiency. In 1988, President Bush appointed Ms. Pfund as a charter member of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology. In 1999, Ms. Pfund was appointed by President Clinton to serve on the Congressional Web-Based Education Commission.

**Mathew Rodriguez, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency**

Secretary Rodriguez chairs the state's Climate Action Team and oversees the activities of the California Air Resources Board, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the State Water Resources Control Board. He advises the Governor on environmental and climate policy. He has more than 24 years of environmental experience with the California Department of Justice, where he served as a deputy attorney general from 1987 to 1999 representing the attorney general and clients of the land law section. His clients included the California Coastal Commission, the State Lands Commission, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

**Karen Ross, Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)**

Secretary Ross has deep leadership experience in agricultural issues nationally, internationally, and here in California. Prior to leading CDFA, Secretary Ross was chief of staff for U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, a position she accepted in 2009. Before her time at the U.S. Department of Agriculture,

Secretary Ross served as president of the California Association of Winegrape Growers and helped create a nationally recognized sustainable winegrowing program, which assists growers in maintaining the long-term viability of agricultural lands providing leadership in protecting the environment, conserving natural resources, and enhancing their local communities. On the California State Board of Food and Agriculture, she chaired the Ag Vision Subcommittee, developing a report for a strategic plan for the future of the state's agriculture and food system.

**Arnold Schwarzenegger, former Governor of California**

Arnold Schwarzenegger, the Austrian-born immigrant, former Mr. Universe bodybuilder and movie star known around the world, gratefully served the people of California as the state's 38th governor from 2003 to 2010. First elected in California's historic recall election, Governor Schwarzenegger ushered an era of innovative leadership and extraordinary public service. Most notably, Schwarzenegger made California a world leader on renewable energy and combating climate change with the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, set a revolutionary political reform agenda, and became the first governor in decades to invest in rebuilding California's critical infrastructure with his Strategic Growth Plan. He also dedicated himself to promoting physical education and after-school programs, and continues to commit his time, energy and personal finances to charitable organizations around the world. Governor Schwarzenegger has four children - Katherine, Christina, Patrick and Christopher.

**Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)**

As CEQ Chair, Ms. Sutley is the principal environmental policy adviser to President Obama. Prior to her appointment, she served as deputy mayor for energy and environment for the city of Los Angeles, and served on the board of directors for the Metropolitan Water District. Ms. Sutley also served on the California State Water Resources Control Board from 2003 to 2005, worked as energy advisory for Governor Gray Davis, managing state and federal regulations, legislative affairs, finances and press relations, and was deputy secretary for policy and intergovernmental relations at Cal EPA from 1999 to 2003. During the Clinton administration, Ms. Sutley was a senior policy advisor for EPA's regional administrator, and special assistant to the administrator.

**Paul Wenger, President, California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF)**

A third generation farmer, Mr. Wenger farms almonds and walnuts on a family farm in Modesto, which includes property purchased by his grandfather in 1910. He became a statewide Farm Bureau officer serving as second vice president and elected first vice president in 2005. He is on the CFBF board and chaired their Water Advisory Committee and Water Development Task Force. He is a former president of the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau. In 2011, he was elected to the American Farm Bureau Federation board of directors. His farm operations include sharecropping, custom farm work, and walnut hulling. He has expanded to include processing and marketing of almonds and walnuts to provide an opportunity for the fourth generation of the family to vertically integrate into the family farming operation.